

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
TRSE-00 /061 W
-----082935 222328Z /65
R 220800Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL PALERMO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2423
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJECT: SICILIAN PSI REGIONAL CONGRESS RESULTS

1. SUMMARY: IN ITS MARCH 17-19 REGIONAL CONGRESS, THE SICILIAN PSI OFFERED AN "AUTONOMOUS" PARTY CONTRIBUTION TO THE NEW DC-PCI-PSI-PRI-PSDI PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITIES IN ROME AND PALERMO BUT SAID THE "LEFT ALTERNATIVE" REMAINS PARTY'S ULTIMATE HOPE. AS EXPECTED, CRAXI-SIGNORILE TICKET CAME OUT AS A MINOR IN SICILY. ALTHOUGH LAURICELLA-LED GROUPING WON THE CONGRESS, ITS SUCCESS UNDERScoreD GROUP'S HETEROGENEITY AND LACK OF COHESION. END SUMMARY.

2. ON MARCH 19, THE SICILIAN PSI CONCLUDED ITS THREE-DAY REGIONAL CONGRESS AT SANTA FLAVIA, A POSH RESORT TOWN NEAR PALERMO, AND ELECTED DELEGATES TO THE MARCH 29-APRIL 2 NATIONAL PARTY CONGRESS IN TURIN. AMID RECIPROCAL CHARGES OF ELECTION FRAUD AND CUT-THROAT INTER-FACTIONAL PROSELYTIZING, LOCAL PARTY VOTE BROKE DOWN AS FOLLOWS:

GROUPS	PERCENTAGE
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MANCA-DE MARTINO	66
(LAURICELLA-SALADINO)	

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CRAXI-SIGNORILE	39
MANCINI	3
ANCHILLI	1

ALTHOUGH THE CRAXI-SIGNORILE LIST DID SURPRISINGLY WELLGIVEN THE HASTINESS OF ITS ASSEMBLING AND THE VARIED BACKGROUND OF ITS MEMBERSHIP, LAURICELLA (OFFICIALLY A DEMARTINIANO)

RETAINED HIS PRIMACY IN THE SICILIAN PSI. ESSENTIAL HERE
WAS THE SOMEWHAT TENUOUS CONTINUING SUPPORT OF TWO FORMER
PROTEGES, SALADINO AND CAPRIA, WHO CAME CLOSE TO MAJORITY
WEIGHT WITHIN THEIR COLLECTIVE FACTION AND HAVE CHALLENGED
LAURICELLA IN THE PAST.

3. LAURICELLA SAYS HE IS INTERESTED IN A COMPROMISE WITH
THE CRAXI-SIGNORILE BACKERS IN SICILY AND WOULD LIKE TO GO
TO THE TURIN CONGRESS AS THE RECOGNIZED LEADER OF THE SICILIAN
SOCIALIST DELEGATION. HE HAS TOLD US, TOO, THAT HE WOULD FAVOR
A POST-CONGRESS RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN THE CRAXI-SIGNORILE
AND MANCA-DE MARTINO ALIGNMENTS AND A UNITARY DIRECTION OF THE
PARTY.

4. THE REGIONAL PSI CONGRESS APPROVED THE NEWLY-FORMED
MAJORITIES AT THE SICILIAN REGION AND IN ROME. HOSTILE BOTH TO THE
DC'S
"MODERATISM" AND THE PCI'S "HEGEMONY", THE PSI SAYS IT WANTS TO
PLAY AN "AUTONOMOUS" ROLE AMONG THE OTHER DEMOCRATIC FORCES
TO OVERCOME THE PRESENT EMERGENCY THOUGH THE "LEFTIST ALTERNATIVE"
REMAINS THE PARTY'S LONG-RUN GOAL.

COLLINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LINE, POLITICAL PARTIES, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PALERM00312
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780127-0164
Format: TEL
From: PALERMO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780337/aaaabfhz.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 545cc1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3239068
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SICILIAN PSI REGIONAL CONGRESS RESULTS
TAGS: PINT, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/545cc1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014